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April 18, 2007

57739-000020

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 06-150 (Service Rules for the 700 MHz commercial bands)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 17, 2007, representatives of multiple parties supporting the Balanced Consensus Plan for the 700 MHz auction of commercial spectrum participated in a telephone conference call with Barry Ohlson, legal advisor to Commissioner Adelstein to discuss the above-referenced proceeding.

The parties and their representatives participating on the conference call were: (1) MetroPCS Communications, Inc., represented by Mark Stachiw, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary and Michael Lazarus of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP; (2) United States Cellular Corporation, represented by Grant Spellmeyer, Director – External Affairs and George Wheeler of Holland & Knight, LLP; (3) Alltel Corporation, represented by Glenn Rabin, Vice President, Federal Communications Counsel; (4) Leap Wireless International, Inc., represented by James Barker of Latham & Watkins LLP; (5) Aloha Partners, L.P., represented by Tom Gutierrez of Lukas, Nace, Gutierrez & Sachs, Chartered; (6) The Blooston Rural Carriers, represented by D. Cary Mitchell and John Prendergast of Blooston, Mordkofsky, Dickens, Duffy & Prendergast, LLP; (7) Rural Cellular Association and Cellular South Licenses, Inc., represented by David Nace of Lukas, Nace, Gutierrez & Sachs, Chtd.; (8) Corr Wireless Communications, LLC, represented by Don Evans of Fletcher, I-leald & Hildreth, PLC; and (9) Rural Telecommunications Group, Inc., represented by Gregory Whiteaker of Bennet & Rennet, PLLC.

The oral presentation during this conference call was consistent with the pleadings and *ex parte* presentations filed on behalf of the above parties in the above-referenced proceeding. The parties stressed the importance to regional and smaller carriers of having service areas that are smaller than regional economic area groupings (“REAGs”) available at auction, to enable such carriers to remain competitive with the largest carriers, as well as meet 4G spectrum needs. In addition, the above participants requested that the Commission make the following changes in the proposed 700 MHz band plan:

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1. In the lower band, license one paired frequency block on a CMA basis, and one paired frequency block on a EA basis. The remaining unpaired spectrum should be licensed on a REAG basis (this spectrum is already licensed on an economic area grouping ("EAG") basis in the current rules).
2. In the upper band, subdivide the 20 MHz frequency block into **two** 10 MHz paired frequency blocks.
3. After subdividing the upper band frequency block, make one of the **two** subdivided frequency blocks available on a geographic area smaller than a REAG.¹

In addition, attached is a graphical description of the above principles, along with a transmittal email from James Barker to Barry Ohlson noting the above principles.

This letter is being filed pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules. 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

Kindly refer any questions in connection with this letter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael Lazams

Michael Lazams
of PAUL, HASTINGS, JANOFSKY & WALKER LLP

cc: (via email) Barry Ohlson

LEGAL_US_E # 74868383.1

¹ The balanced consensus plan advocated allocating two **CMA** frequency blocks, one of which would be in the upper band.

From: Barker, Jim (DC)
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2007 2:05 PM
To: 'Barry Ohlson'
Subject: Band Plan

Hi Barry - <<revisedconsensus proposal for 700 MHz bands.doc>>
Attached is a graphical depiction of the revisions that the Balanced Consensus Plan coalition believes are very important.

To summarize, the proposed revisions are as follows:

1. In the lower band, license one paired frequency block on a CMA basis, and one paired frequency block on a EA basis. The remaining unpaired spectrum should be licensed on a REAG basis as is the case in the current rules.
2. In the upper band, subdivide the 20 MHz frequency block into two 10 MHz paired frequency blocks.
3. After subdividing the upper band frequency block, make one of the two subdivided frequency blocks available on a geographic area smaller than a REAG.^[1]

[1] The balanced consensus plan advocated allocating *two* CMA frequency blocks, one of which would be in the upper band.

Best, Jim

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4/17/2007

REVISED BALANCED CONSENSUS PLAN

Upper 700 MHz Band

A	C-1	C-2	D	Public Safety		A	C-1	C-2	D	Public Safety	
CH. 60	CH. 61	CH. 62	CH. 63	CH. 64	CH. 65	CH. 66	CH. 67	CH. 68	CH. 69		
746	752	758	764	770	776	782	788	794	800	806	

Block	Frequencies	Bandwidth	Pairing	Area Type	Licenses
A	746-747, 776-777	2 MHz	2 x 1 MHz	MEA	52*
C-1	747-752.5, 777-782.5	11 MHz	2 x 5.5 MHz	CMA or EA	734 176
C-2	752.5-758, 782.5-788	11 MHz	2 x 5.5 MHz	REAG	12
D	758-764, 788-794	12 MHz	2 x 6 MHz	REAG or Nationwide	12 1

Lower 700 MHz Band

698	704	710	716	722	728	734	740	746
A	B	C	D	E	A	B	C	
CH. 52	CH. 53	CH. 54	CH. 55	CH. 56	CH. 57	CH. 58	CH. 59	

Block	Frequencies	Bandwidth	Pairing	Area Type	Licenses
A	698-704, 728-734	12 MHz	2 x 6 MHz	EA	176
B	704-710, 734-740	12 MHz	2 x 6 MHz	CMA	734
C	710-716, 740-746	12 MHz	2 x 6 MHz	MSA/RSA	734*
D	716-722	6 MHz	unpaired	700 MHz EAG	6*
E	722-728	6 MHz	unpaired	REAG	12

*Blocks have been auctioned.